



County of Los Angeles  
Department of Public Social Services

Bryce Yokomizo  
Director

April 15, 2003

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: **SECOND EVALUATION REPORT BY PUBLIC WORKS, INC., OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION'S (LACOE) AFTER-  
SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

This is to provide you with a summary of the second evaluation for Los Angeles County Office of Education's (LACOE) After-School Enrichment (ASE) Program, which was completed by Public Works, Inc., a nonprofit educational consulting firm located in Pasadena. A copy of this report was sent to you in February 2003, by Darline Robles, Superintendent of LACOE.

### **Background**

Your Board approved the After-School Enrichment Program on May 11, 1999, which authorized the DPSS Director to enter into contracts with LACOE and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to develop and implement after-school enrichment programs designed to offer a safe environment that included academic assistance, homework help, enrichment activities, recreation, and quality child care at well-supervised school sites. The program was implemented at those schools with the highest concentration of CalWORKs families. The contracts require an annual evaluation report of the program.

### **Evaluation Report**

The evaluation provided by Public Works, Inc., will be used to establish a baseline from which to measure future program progress and impact. Public Works, Inc., collected baseline data on SAT-9 test scores and school attendance for students in the program from 31 sample sites of the 89 schools currently operating. They also conducted telephone interviews with the program staff, on-site visits and random sample surveys of students, parents and staff.

### **Findings**

The following findings indicate that LACOE's ASE Program has resulted in positive achievements that include:

- Seventy-five percent of the program personnel interviewed stated that because students had a "safe place to be", parents had either gained employment or returned to school to improve their employment opportunities.
- After participating in the program, students had a significantly lower rate of absenteeism, decreasing from an average of twenty-three days to seven days per year.
- Program personnel reported that ASE students have shown a significant increase in self-confidence and self-esteem and this was most often cited as the contributing factor to a positive change in the behavior of the children.
- For students in the program, there was a slight, but consistent increase in SAT-9 scores in 2000 and 2001, although their scores were slightly below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on the SAT-9 reading and math in 2001.

Public Works, Inc., will release their next evaluation of the program in July 2003. I will share a summary and copy of the report with your Board when received.

BY:ve

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Superintendent, LACOE